INSIDER™

DARK HORSE COMICS NO.11 NOVEMBER 1992

LOOK INSIDE:

For previews of 25 great titles from the world's greatest comic-book company

A HARD LOOK AT ANDREW VACHSS

ALIENS VS. PREDATOR 2

As much action as you can handle from Stradley and Warner

THE HORSE'S MOUTH

Dark Horse readers open up!

RETAILER OF THE MONTH

...AND MORE!

On the cover:
Don Martin's Droll Book cover art by Don Martin

DARK HORSE COMICS

INSIDE THE INSIDER

NOVEMBER TITLES
1-15, 27-29

ALIENS VS. PREDATOR 2
16-17

RETAILER OF THE MONTH
18

SNEAK PREVIEW
19-22

A HARD LOOK AT ANDREW VACHSS
23-25

TEST YOUR C.Q. ANSWERS
26

THE HORSE'S MOUTH
30-31

PHOTO FINISH
32

INSIDE OUT
INSIDE BACK COVER

FRONT COVER ART
BY DON MARTIN,
FROM *DON MARTIN'S DROLL BOOK*

BACK COVER ART
BY GARY GIANNI,
FROM *HARD LOOKS* #5

INSIDE FRONT COVER ART
BY JOHN WATKIS,
FROM *RING OF ROSES* #1

INSIDE BACK COVER ART
BY TONY AKINS AND PAUL GUINAN,
FROM *ALIENS: COLONIAL MARINES* #1

EDITOR: KRIS YOUNG
PROOFREADER: SUZANNE TAYLOR
DESIGN & PRODUCTION: EGON SELBY

ALIENS: GENOCIDE

(SOFTCOVER COLLECTION)

One planet. Two Alien queens. Millions of hungry Aliens. A king's ransom awaits the survivors! Written by **John Arcudi** (*The Terminator: Tempest*) with art by **Damon Willis** and **Karl Story**, and a stunning new cover from **Dave Dorman**. *Aliens: Genocide* puts a little bite into the holiday season.

$13.95 U.S., $16.75 Canada.
112 color pages, squarebound, painted cover.

Shipping November 3, 1992.

PREDATOR VS. MAGNUS ROBOT FIGHTER #2 (OF 2)

Valiant and Dark Horse combine their resources to produce the spectacular conclusion to the year's most exciting face-off! Predator faces Robot Fighter — and only one will walk away. Don't miss this historic match-up! Written by **John Ostrander**, with art by **Lee Weeks**, and cover by **Barry Windsor-Smith**.

Readers' note: Free trading cards inside! Two collectible trading cards with all-new *Predator vs. Magnus Robot Fighter* art by Lee Weeks in this issue.

$2.95 U.S., $3.50 Canada.
32 full-color pages, saddle-stitched deluxe format, color cover.

Shipping November 17, 1992.

ROBOCOP: PRIME SUSPECT #2 (OF 4)

Matthew Zieske had originally planned to offer his new creation to the Detroit police force, as an aid to RoboCop. Now Zieske's creation (the new ZED-309s, the debugged wonder robots with the newly-fixed "brains") will be used to hunt down RoboCop. ZED-309: the last word in modern policing. Also the last word RoboCop wants to hear.

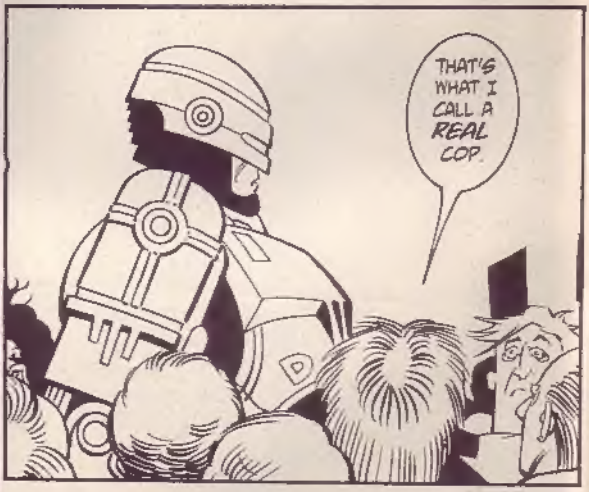
Written by **John Arcudi** (*The Mask Returns*), pencilled by **John Paul Leon** (*RoboCop* in *DHC*), inked by **Jeff Albrecht** (*RoboCop* in *DHC*), colored by **Matt Webb** (*John Byrne's Next Men*), and topped off with painted covers by **Nelson** (*RoboCop 3* movie adaptation)! Don't miss the companion *RoboCop* tale in *DHC* #1-3.

$2.50 U.S., $3.00 Canada.
32 color pages, painted cover.

Monthly. Shipping November 17, 1992.

PREDATOR™
VS.
MAGNUS ROBOT FIGHTER

ROBOCOP™
PRIME SUSPECT



NEXUS THE LIBERATOR #4 (OF 4)

It all seemed so simple at first. The Holy Gigo, ruler of planet Uyl, caused the deaths of millions of his subjects. That made him a mass murderer, and Nexus' job is to execute mass murderers — so he stopped off on Uyl and killed Gigo. Then he had to kill him again... and again... and again... and again.... The conclusion to this tale of war, love, vengeance, politics, and the undead is by writer **Stefan Petrucha** (*Squalor*), penciller **John Calimée** (*Alpha Flight*), and original *Nexus* inker **John Nyberg**. Plus, another full-color cover by **Adam Hughes**!

$2.50 U.S., $3.00 Canada.
32 color pages, color cover.

Shipping November 10, 1992.

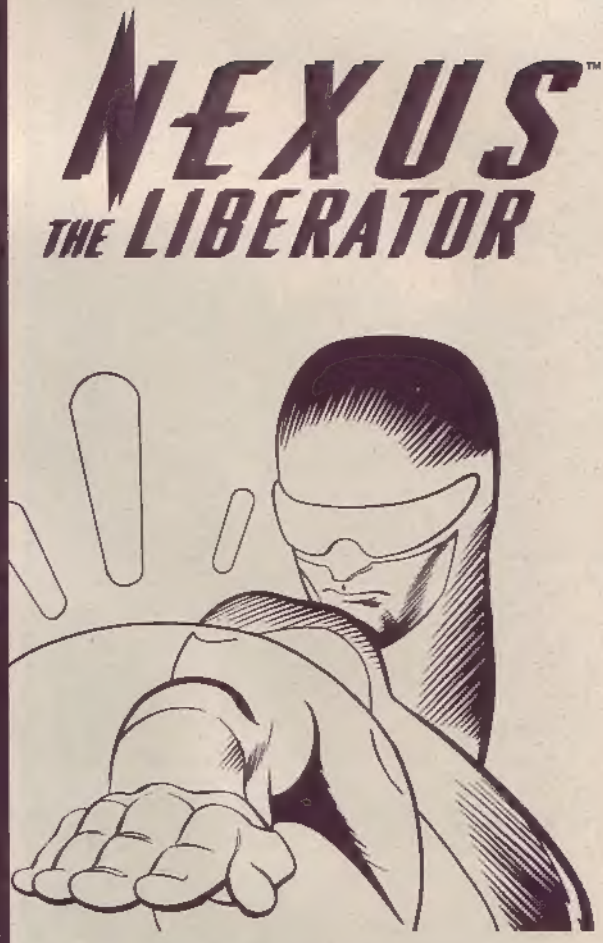
JOHN BYRNE'S NEXT MEN #9

The Next Men encounter the greatest shock of their lives as they discover that the Omega Project, Russia's own Next Men, has a ghost from **their** past! The two groups have much more in common than they expected! And there's more shock as Danny, left behind for his own protection, heads south to pursue another mystery. Then, in part three of the enigmatic "M4," Mark hits the road on the trail of his own answers. **Enter to win a great MIV T-shirt!**

The whole kit and caboodle is by **John Byrne** (including the cover), with colors by **Matt Webb**.

$2.50 U.S., $3.00 Canada.
32 color pages, color cover.

Monthly. Shipping November 10, 1992.



GRENDEL: WAR CHILD #4 (OF 10)

While Laurel Kennedy announces the death of Orion's heir to a shocked world, setting off a political explosion in the process, Jupiter Assante and his captor, the mysterious Grendel figure, have in fact set sail for Africa. Problem is, they've hitched a ride aboard a freighter about to be attacked by a band of vicious pirates, out for plunder and blood. It's swashbuckling action like you've never seen before, as young Jupiter finds himself quite literally caught between the "Devil and the Deep Blue Sea"! Created, written, and inked by **Matt Wagner**, with pencil art by **Patrick McEown** and color art by **Bernie Mireault**. Dynamite cover painting by fan-favorite **Simon Bisley**.

Suggested for mature readers. This issue contains harsh language and scenes of extreme violence.

$2.50 U.S., $3.00 Canada.
32 color pages, painted cover.

Monthly. November 3, 1992.

CLASSIC STAR WARS #4

When Luke's spy mission in Imperial territory turns out to be a trap set by none other than Darth Vader, his only hope for escape is a beautiful thief named Tanith Shire. Unfortunately, her only escape route leads straight out of the frying pan and into the fire! These classic newspaper strips were produced between 1981 and 1984 by writer **Archie Goodwin** and artist **Al Williamson**, and are being colored for the first time by **Steve Buccellato** (*The Terminator: The Enemy Within*). Williamson also provides a new cover for this issue and is redrawing portions of the interior art to fit the comic-book format.

$2.50 U.S., $3.00 Canada.
32 color pages, color cover.

Monthly. Shipping November 3, 1992.

GRENDEL™
war child

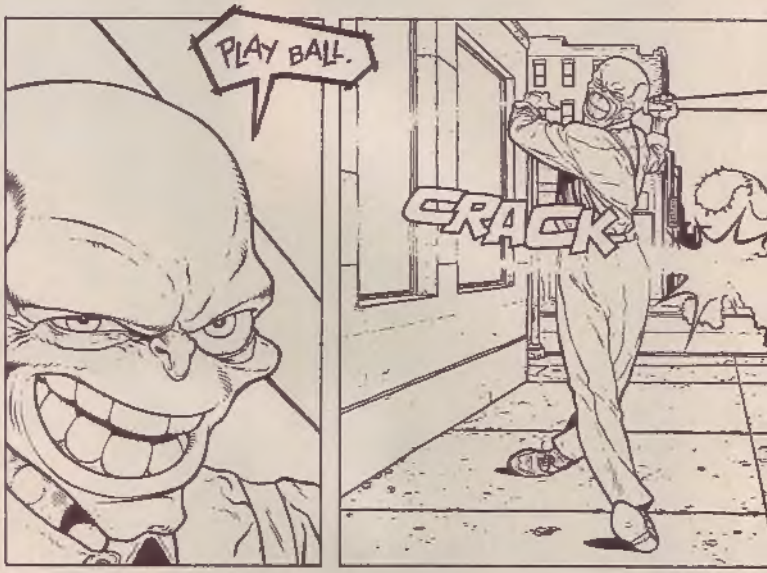
CLASSIC STAR WARS®

THE MASK RETURNS #3 (OF 4)

The Mask's beginnings are revealed at last! Find out where it came from and who wants it back! Will Kathy be able to give it up now that she's tasted its awesome power? Also, Walter makes a deal — just hope it's not with you! Written by **John Arcudi** and illustrated by **Doug Mahnke**.

$2.50 U.S., $3.00 Canada.
32 color pages, painted cover.

Monthly. Shipping November 3, 1992.



HERBIE #3

Herbie and the Flaming Carrot together in one thrill-packed, exciting, and decidedly weird story. Be there for a comics first! Also, two additional *Herbie* classics written by **Shane O' Shea** and illustrated by **Ogden Whitney**. Featuring new material (including color cover) by **Bob Burden**.

$2.50 U.S., $3.00 Canada.
32 color pages, color cover.

Monthly. Shipping November 17, 1992.

KLING KLANG KLATCH

At 5:00 a.m. on the greasy streets of a city that never sleeps, the dolls are on the hard stuff and the transport's about to strike again. On the news it's all bombs and killing machines the size of tenement blocks. The only consolation for a weary middle-aged cop on his way home is a little illegal sugar and some sweet tenor sax.

But that was before they found the body that looked like somebody had unzipped it then scooped out all its insides. And the three words scrawled on an alley wall. Three red words, so fresh they were still dripping.

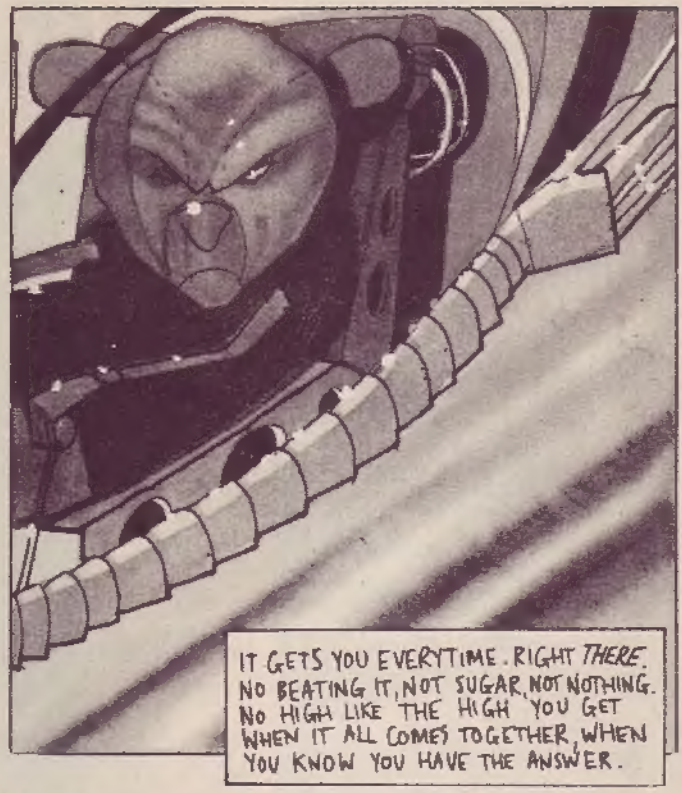
KLING KLANG KLATCH.

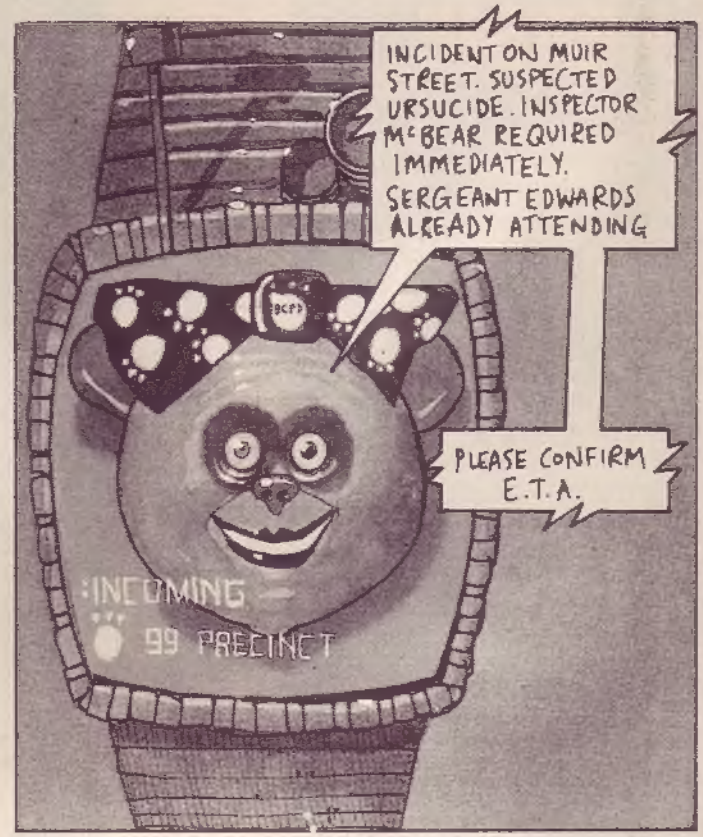
It's enough to knock out anyone's stuffing. And in Toyland, that's no joke.

KLING KLANG KLATCH is set in a superficially glittering world that, if not exactly human, reflects humanity's desires, corruption, and racism at a fundamental level. **Ian McDonald**'s (*Desolation Road*) blackly bizarre wit and **David Lyttleton**'s (*Punch*) razor-sharp eye for detail have created a unique fantasy with a delicious streak of dark humor.

$11.95 U.S., $14.50 Canada.
80 painted color pages, 8 1/2" x 11 3/4", squarebound, painted cover.

Shipping November 10, 1992.


IT GETS YOU EVERYTIME. RIGHT THERE. NO BEATING IT, NOT SUGAR, NOT NOTHING. NO HIGH LIKE THE HIGH YOU GET WHEN IT ALL COMES TOGETHER, WHEN YOU KNOW YOU HAVE THE ANSWER.


INCIDENT ON MUIR STREET. SUSPECTED URSUCIDE. INSPECTOR McBEAR REQUIRED IMMEDIATELY. SERGEANT EDWARDS ALREADY ATTENDING
PLEASE CONFIRM E.T.A.
INCOMING
99 PRECINCT

DON MARTIN'S DROLL BOOK

His droop-toed characters and hilarious sound effects have gained **Don Martin** worldwide recognition and acclaim as *the* seminal *MAD* artist and a master of the profoundly absurd cartoon! Packed with outrageous gags and unique humor, this is Don's hand-picked collection of his favorite material — including his syndicated newspaper strip *The Nutheads*, and material never before published in the U.S. New cover painting by Martin.

$9.95 U.S., $11.95 Canada (paperback).
128 B&W pages, painted cover.

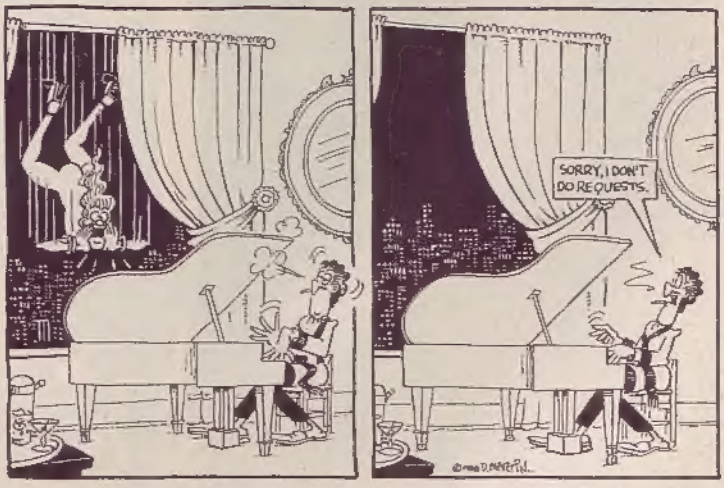
Paperback shipping November 24, 1992.

As a special bonus for the true completists out there, Dark Horse will be issuing a special limited edition hardcover of *Don Martin's Droll Book*, which will include a numbered signature sheet featuring an all-new, full-color illustration signed by the artist! The print run will be limited to 500 copies, so order early!

$39.95 U.S., $47.95 Canada (hardcover).
128 B&W pages, signed and numbered, painted cover.

Hardcover shipping December 22, 1992.

DON MARTIN'S droll BOOK™



MODERN CLASSICS: FREAKS' AMOUR #3 (OF 3)

The living death produced by the eggs has attracted more than junkies. Could the eggs be a way to somewhere else? Grinner, Reent, and Flour find out. **Mark Burbey**, **Phil Hester**, and **Ande Parks** conclude their adaptation of **Tom DeHaven**'s novel. Color cover by **Mike Mignola**.

Suggested for mature readers.

$3.95 U.S., $4.75 Canada.
48 B&W pages, saddle-stitched, color cover.

Shipping November 10, 1992.

BLANCHE GOES TO NEW YORK

What? A *whole* story by Rick Geary? YOU BETCHA! A never-before-seen epic of Victorian New York, told by the most irrepressible pianist ever to assault the ivories in admiration of Schoenburg! Rick Geary spins the tale of what really happened at the turn of the century as they dug the subway tunnels beneath the streets of Manhattan. Blanche goes to New York to find herself involved with an eccentric professor, a Lovecraftian monster, and a shocking portrait painter!

Written and drawn by **Rick Geary**, with a full-color cover by Geary.

$2.95 U.S., $3.50 Canada.
32 color pages, color cover.

Shipping November 17, 1992.

FREAKS' AMOUR
IF YOU HAD ANY CONSCIOUSNESS, YOU'D KILL ME.
TELL ME THE REST OF IT... THE MIND ROCKETS... YOUR FATHER...
BLANCHE GOES TO NEW YORK ™
We sped along the narrow streets of the Greenwich Village . . .

SIN CITY

(SOFTCOVER COLLECTION)

People die easy... love dies hard. **Frank Miller** (*Give Me Liberty, Hard Boiled, Batman: The Dark Knight Returns*) creates a new noir opus in *Sin City*. The critically acclaimed trilogy — recently awarded the prestigious National Cartoonists' Award for Best Comic Book of 1992 — is now collected for the first time and features 18 new pages. *Sin City* combines the pulp intensity of writers like Spillane and Cain with the exciting graphic storytelling that only Miller and Dark Horse can deliver. Sin City is the place — tough as leather and dry as tinder. Love is the fuel and Violent Mare has the match. Watch it burn! *Sin City* makes a great gift for the holidays — don't miss out! Cover by Miller.

Suggested for mature readers

$15.00 U.S.
$18.00 Canada.
208 B&W pages on 100% recycled paper.
Squarebound.

Shipping November 3, 1992

HARD LOOKS #5

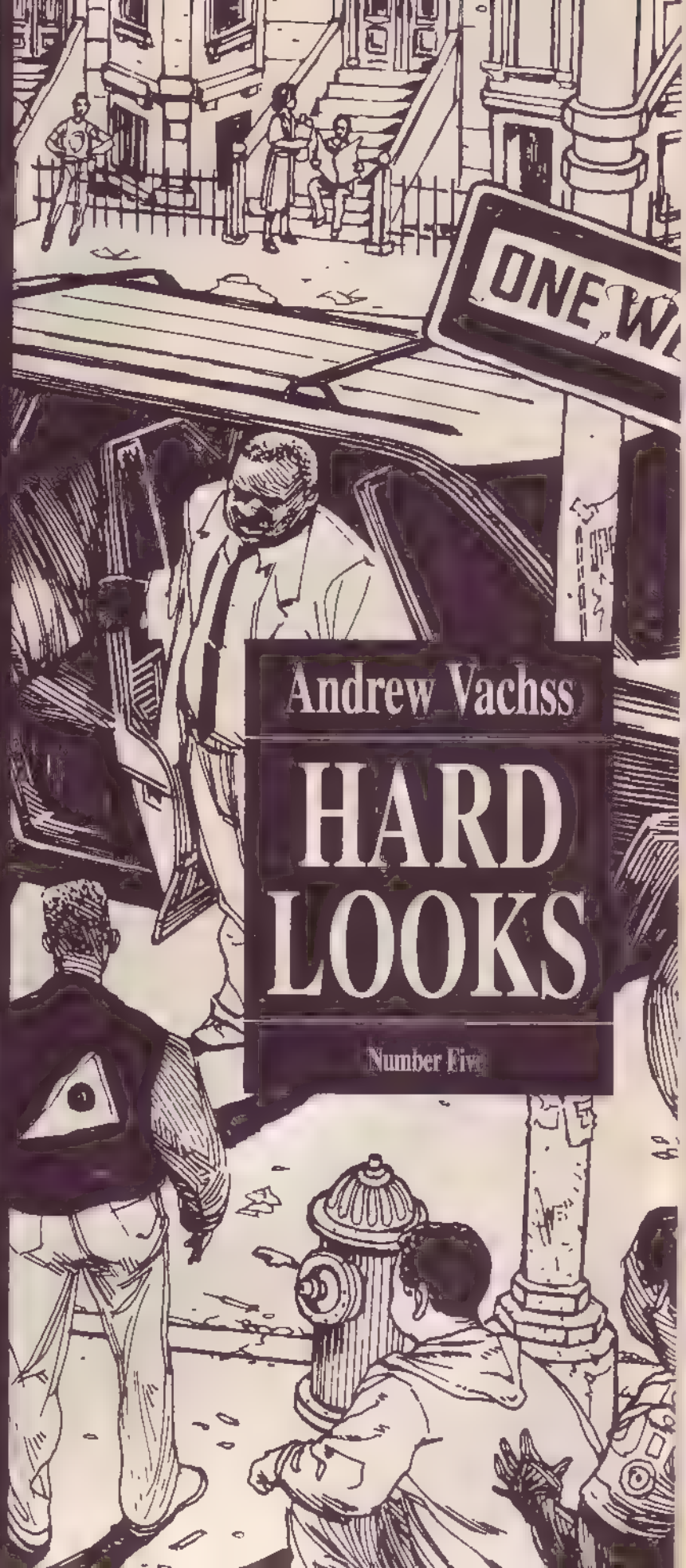
by Andrew Vachss

Hard Looks continues to deliver the finest in crime suspense story and art. In this issue, **Andrew Vachss** is joined by fellow novelists **Joe Lansdale** (*Cold In July*) and **Neal Barrett, Jr.** (*The Hereafter Gang*). Lansdale and artist **Gary Gianni** (*Indiana Jones*) adapt "Drive By," and Barrett with artist **Christopher Moeller** (*King of the Rocketmen*) adapt "Treatment." Vachss provides a new, previously unpublished story, "Crime Partner," with an illustration by **Richard Olsen**. Color cover by Gianni.

Suggested for mature readers

$2.50 U.S., $3.00 Canada
32 B&W pages, color cover

Bimonthly. Shipping November 17, 1992



ANOTHER CHANCE TO GET IT RIGHT

by Andrew Vachss

"What children are, more than anything else, is this: another chance for our flawed species. Another chance to get it right."

Andrew Vachss, best-selling author of the crime-suspense classics *Sacrifice* and *Blossom*, creates an exceptional, personal vision of hope and challenge with *Another Chance to Get It Right*, a prose-poem-essay presenting the possibilities and perils of childhood, along with seven fiction vignettes, facets of the same precious stone.

Joining Andrew Vachss in presenting *Another Chance to Get It Right* are some of the finest illustrators in the world, each illustrating a separate vignette: **Timothy Bradstreet** (*Hard Looks*); **Paul Chadwick** (*Concrete*); **Geof Darrow** (*Hard Boiled*); **Rick Geary** (*Cyberantics, Prairie Moon*); **Gary Gianni** (*Indiana Jones, Hard Looks*); **Dave Gibbons** (*Give Me Liberty*); and **Warren Pleece** (*Velocity, Hard Looks*).

This is a different kind of children's book — a book for and about the children of the world: Their formidable barriers, their unlimited potential. And the challenge to us all. *Another Chance to Get It Right* is a book for children and their parents now, and for years to come.

$14.95 U.S., $17.95 Canada
64 B&W pages, Smythe-sewn, laminated hardcover, color cover

Shipping November 13, 1992

ANOTHER™ CHANCE TO GET IT RIGHT

THE NEW FRONTIER #2 (OF 3)

Who killed Rubi Fields? Inquiring minds want to know the answer to that question. Rumors abound. Was she murdered by the worldwide Bolshevik revolution? Is she the unwilling victim of diabolical mind control experiments? Did evil Martians kidnap her? Or is she living out her existence as a mindless vegetable? Sandi Shore continues her quest to find the answer. *The New Frontier* is expanded from the original serial that ran in *Heavy Metal*. Written by **John Sabljic** and **Michael Cherkas**, with illustrations by Cherkas.

$2.75 U.S., $3.50 Canada
32 B&W pages, color cover

Monthly. Shipping November 17, 1992.

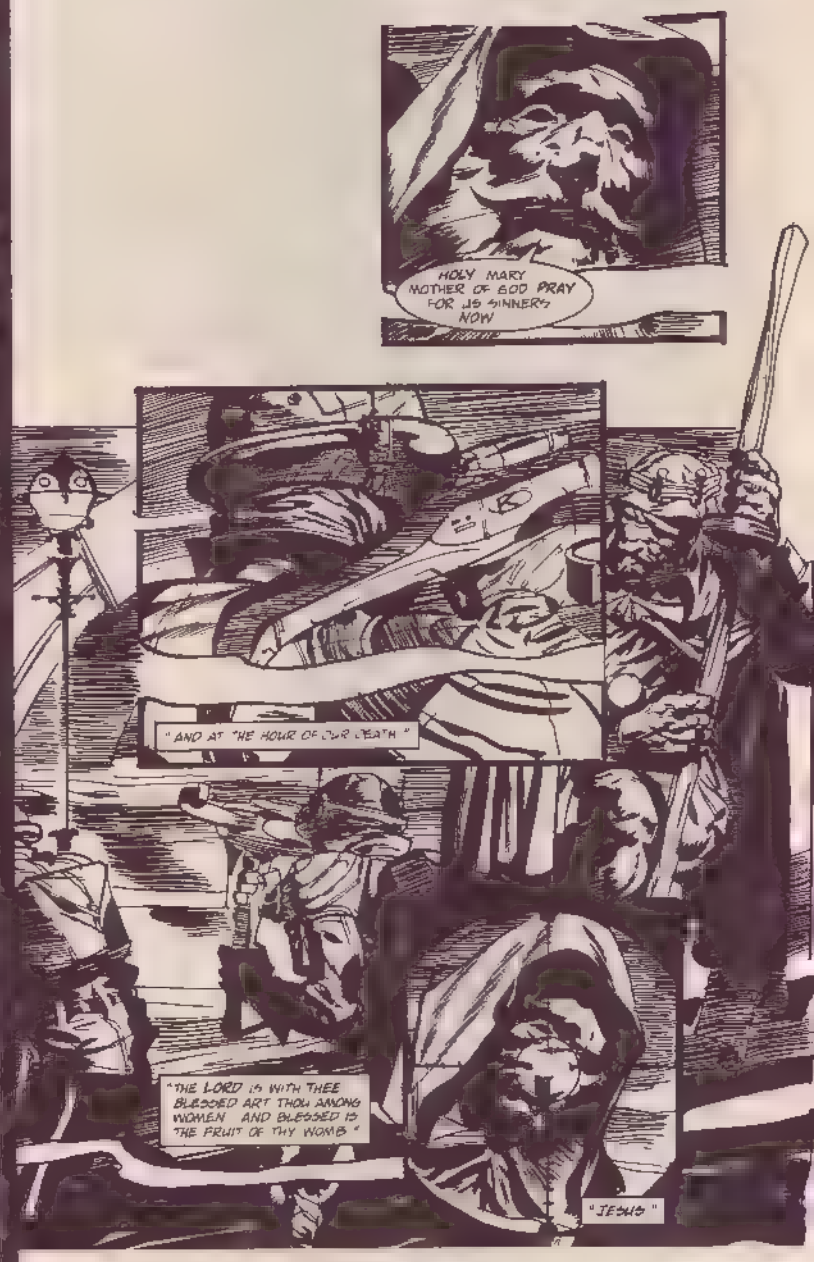
THE NEW FRONTIER
JOHN SABLJIC AND MICHAEL CHERKAS
RUBI
WHO NEEDS A PAIR? YEAH-YOU! YA NEED A PAIR?!
MOM? WERE YOU REALLY MISS RUBI FIELDS AGAIN?
I DON'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT THE PAST...

RING OF ROSES #1 (OF 4)

It's 1991. There have been no world wars. The Church has slowed all advances in science by at least 50 years. The threat of religious wars looms like a dark cloud as sinister underground forces vie for power. Within this world, one man slowly unravels a complex web of deceit and conspiracy as he investigates his lost brother's fate. Yet something worse than war awaits them all. Written by **Dax Petrou** with art by **John Watkis**, *Ring of Roses* takes the reader to an alternate world of intrigue and excitement. Color cover by Watkis.

$2.50 U.S., $3.00 Canada
32 B&W pages, color cover

Monthly Shipping
November 3, 1992


RING OF ROSES™
HOLY MARY MOTHER OF GOD PRAY FOR US SINNERS NOW
"AND AT THE HOUR OF OUR DEATH."
"THE LORD IS WITH THEE BLESSED ART THOU AMONG WOMEN AND BLESSED IS THE FRUIT OF THY WOMB."
"JESUS"

THE VENUS WARS II #6

Helen MacLuhn of the Terran Space Force barely escapes an ambush set up for Matthew at the love hotel, only to find a more subtle — but no less dangerous — challenge at the Terran Consulate! Matt's old flame Luisa has come for a visit, but may have more on her agenda than Helen suspects.

Written and illustrated by **Yoshikazu Yasuhiko**. Translation by **Alan Gleason** and **Toren Smith**. All-new cover illustration by fan favorites **Brian Stelfreeze** and **Dave Johnson**.

$2.25 U.S., $2.75 Canada.
32 B&W pages, color cover.

Monthly. Shipping November 3, 1992.

CARAVAN KIDD #5

It looks like Mian Tors and her servants Wataru and Babo have slipped away once again from the merciless legions of the Hegelbart empire. Booking for a night in the city, Babo takes the opportunity to indulge in a little money-making scheme of his own. His petty larceny pales, though, to the real danger of the Empress Shion — and her plans for our trio of fugitives! Story, art, and painted cover by **Johji Manabe**. Translation by **Dana Lewis** and **Toren Smith**.

Suggested for mature readers.

$2.50 U.S., $3.00 Canada.
32 B&W pages, painted cover.

Monthly. Shipping November 10, 1992.

ORION #2 (OF 6)

Susano Orbatos has been auditioned, and he's mad! It seems the sacred rituals have backfired, and the Yamata Empire is at the mercy of an angry god! Both the secret weapons of the empire, and the monkey god Hanuman can't hold him back! Things are looking bad, especially for Seska, who is... *eaten alive?*

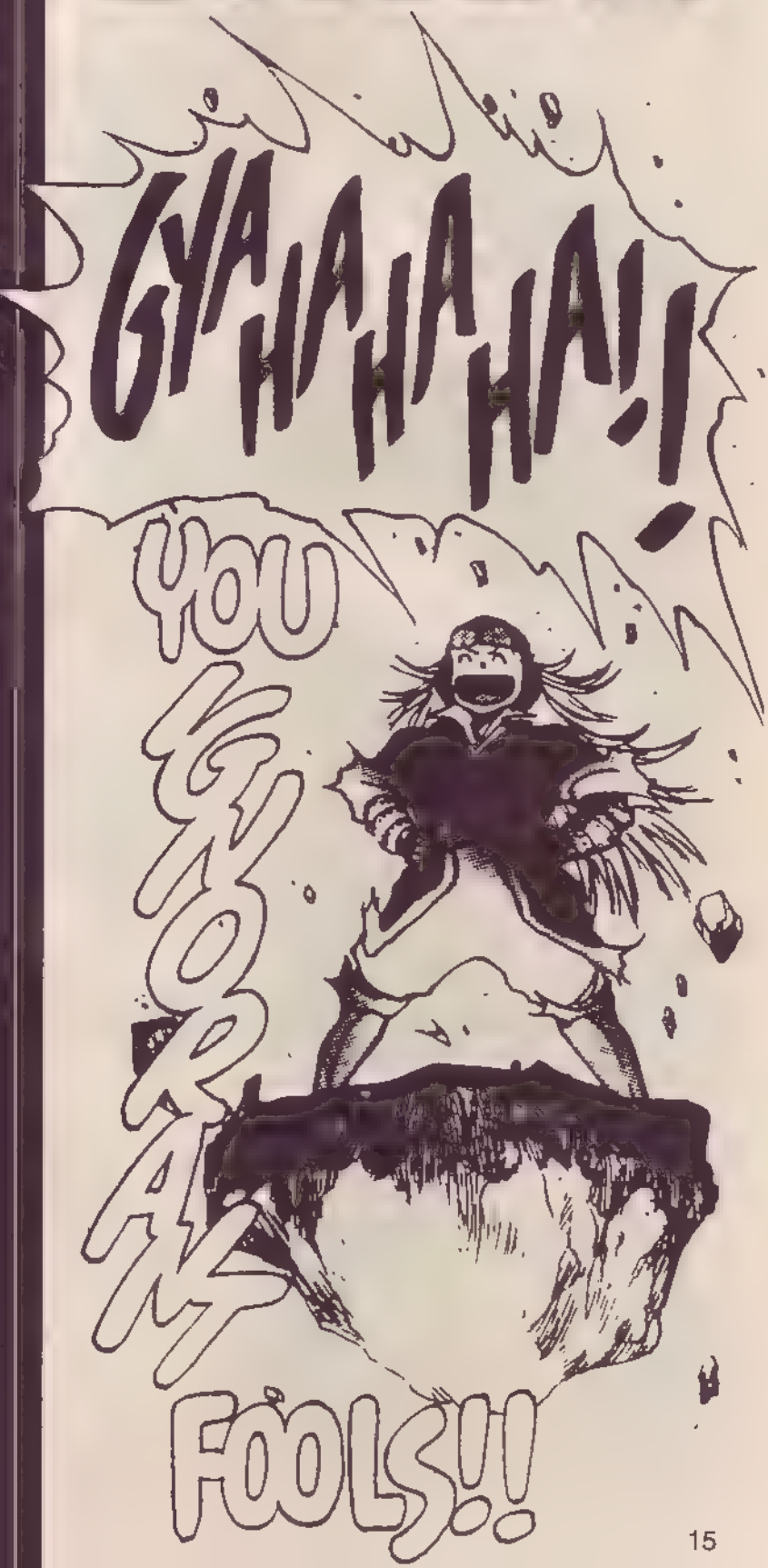
Story, art, and painted cover by **Masamune Shirow**. Translation by *Manga! Manga!* author **Fred Schodt** and **Toren Smith**.

$2.95 U.S., $3.50 Canada
40 B&W pages, painted cover

Bimonthly. Shipping November 24, 1992

masamune shirow's™

ORION



BY STRADLEY AND WARNER

THE OBJECT OF OUR HUNT -- THE BUG'S QUEEN -- BROKE FREE INSIDE OUR SHIP, BUT TOPKNOT MANAGED TO SEAL THE OUTSIDE HATCH.
THE QUEEN HAS ONLY ONE PATH OPEN TO HER -- DIRECTLY INTO THE WAITING "NESTING CHAMBER."
THIS IS RIGHT WHERE WE WANT HER, AND THE SITUATION WOULD NEARLY BE UNDER CONTROL --
-- BUT FOR ONE THING --
...I'M INSIDE WITH HER.

SSSSSSSS
NO. TOO MANY OF MY COMPANIONS HAVE PAID WITH THEIR LIVES TODAY TRYING TO REACH THIS GOAL. TO KILL THE QUEEN NOW WOULD NEGATE THEIR SACRIFICES.
MY GUN MOVES OF ITS OWN ACCORD. A FEW WELL PLACED BURSTS...
IN THIS SITUATION, HONOR OFFERS ONLY ONE COURSE OF ACTION --
-- RETREAT.

RETAILER OF THE MONTH

ACME BOOKS & COMICS 1241 W. MAIN ST. PEORIA, IL 61606 (309) 676-4530

Anonymous Acme staffer proves that monsters and Aliens go together!

The *Insider* is pleased to present the latest "Retailer of the Month": Acme Books & Comics of Peoria, Illinois. According to store owner/president Bob Gordon, "We are the only full-line comic store in central Illinois, and we're proud of the fact that we offer our customers a wide range of comics and comic-related items from several publishers."

Included in a newsletter that Acme Comics puts out were these amusing bios on Gordon and vice president/marketing director Conrad Stinnett:

"*Bob Gordon is the last survivor of a dead planet. Rocketed to Earth as a child, he began to show a strange new interest in popular culture. His main ability is the power to find almost anything a customer might be interested in buying. Backed by Japanese investors, he bought the Peoria Acme franchise from the famous Joseph P. Acme. He may or may not be found at the store on a daily basis. He has a particular fondness for sports cards and enjoys being addressed as 'sir.'*

"*Conrad L. Stinnett III used to be a yuppie. Becoming burned out on that lifestyle, he migrated to Tibet in search of enlightenment, where he hooked up with a group of Buddhistic monks who taught him the 'ins' and 'outs' of the comics industry and other aspects of popular culture. He presently serves as manager/impresario and resident comics expert for Acme, assisting Mr. Gordon in his efforts to make sure everyone has enough stuff to buy. He has a particular desire to expand Acme's female clientele, and does not enjoy being addressed as 'sir.'*"

Another staff member is "journeyman apprentice" Chris Rodeghiero. Together, the three possess over a half century of experience with comics and are extremely interested in advancing the hobby

"Comics are neither for kids or merely a select group of people," said Stinnett. "There are comics to suit a wide range of tastes. In short, comics are for everyone."

The Acme staffers are all confirmed Dark Horse readers, and keep the store well stocked with Dark Horse comics. "There is a Dark Horse comic available to fit any lover of comics," said Stinnett. His current Dark Horse favorite is *Hard Looks.* Gordon looks forward to each new issue of *Cheval Noir*, and Rodeghiero considers *John Byrne's Next Men* to be "totally awesome."

These fine comics retailers were steered to the *Insider* by Dark Horse marketing director, Ronnie Noize. Gordon and Stinnett attended the Capital City Distributors' trade show in May, where they met Noize. She told them that she had been hearing from a lot of other retailers that they didn't order enough copies of *Star Wars* and *John Byrne's Next Men.* Gordon smiled and informed her "*We* knew both books were going to be hot sellers. We ordered a lot and we're selling a lot."

Sounds like these guys know their customers *and* their comics! If you're in the Peoria/central Illinois area, stop by and check out Acme Books & Comics, and tell them the *Insider* sent you.

If you'd like to see YOUR favorite comics retailer touted in the *Insider*, tell us! Be sure to include a photo of the store and/or owner, store name, address, and phone number, and send it to:

Retailer of the Month
c/o Dark Horse Comics
10956 SE Main Street
Milwaukie, OR 97222

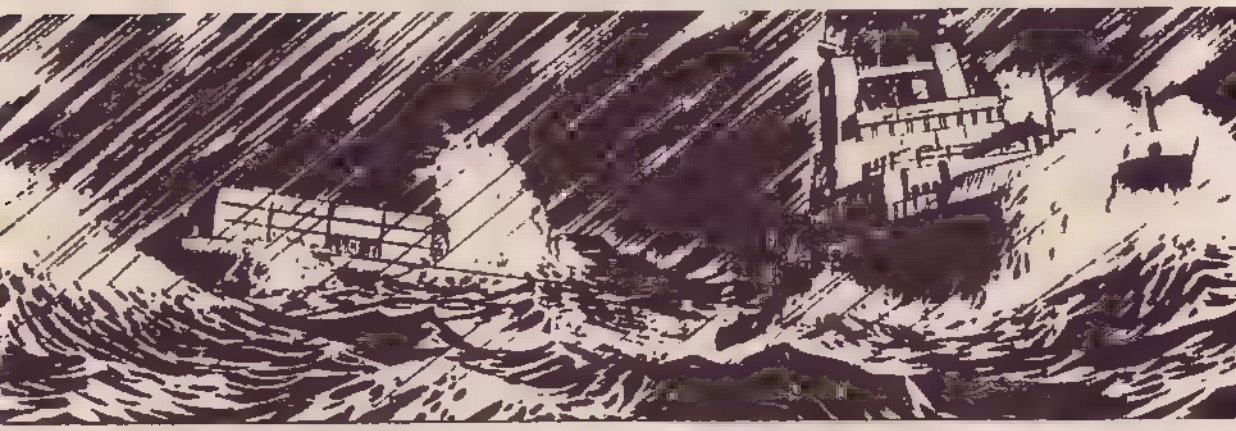
SNEAK PREVIEW

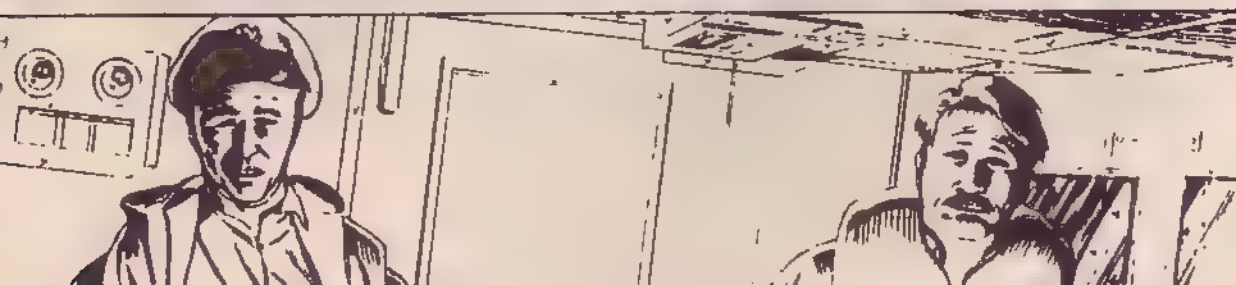
VIRUS™

The *Wan Xuan* may be abandoned, but it's far from deserted. Something is alive inside the ship's computers, and it's building monstrous bodies for itself from pieces of machinery and the corpses of the hapless Chinese crew!

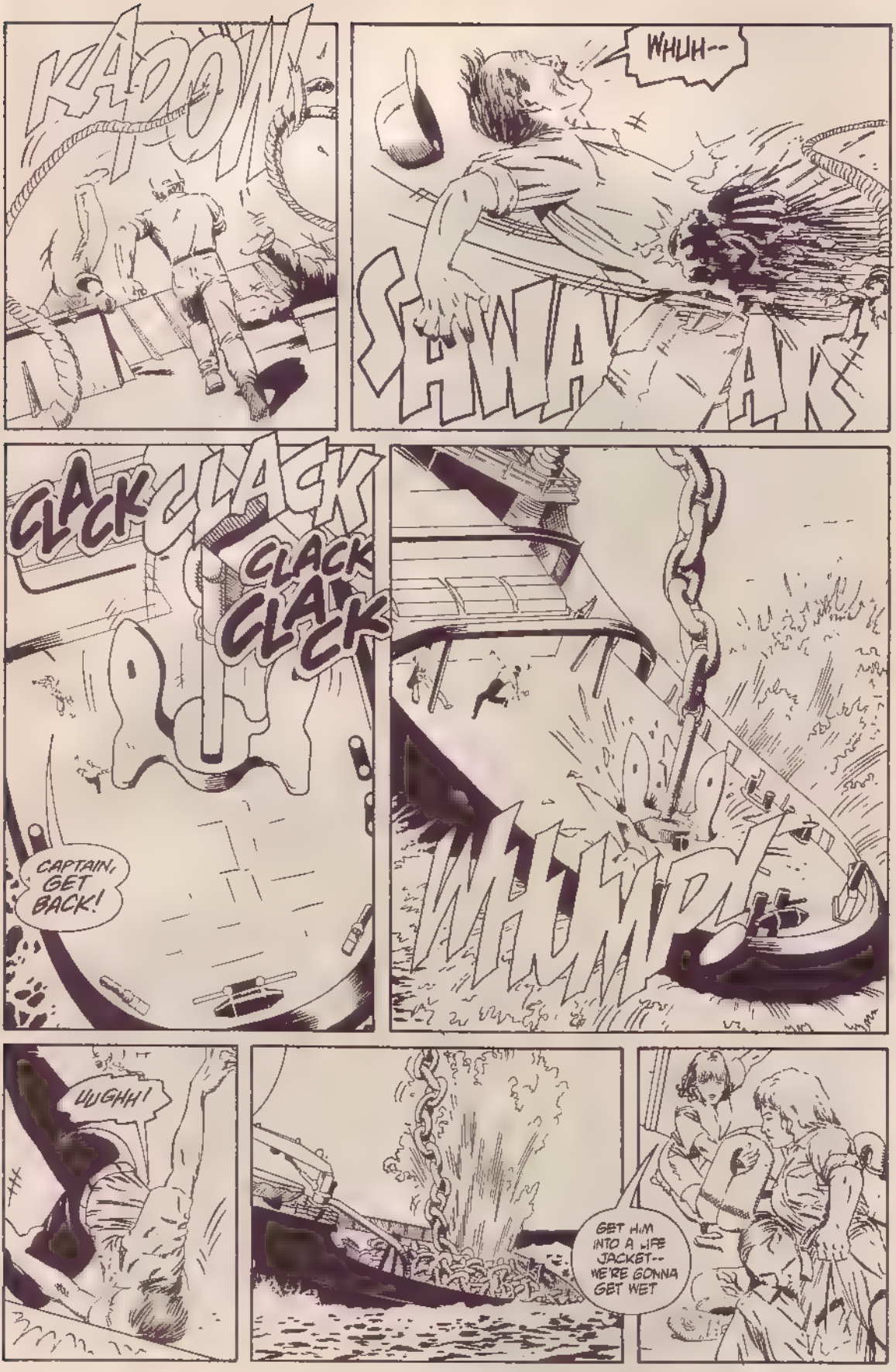
This all new science-fiction/horror series is created and written by **Chuck Pfarrer** (*The Thing from Another World*). Pencilled by **Howard Cobb**, inked by **Jimmy Palmiotti**. Cover by **Mike Ploog**.

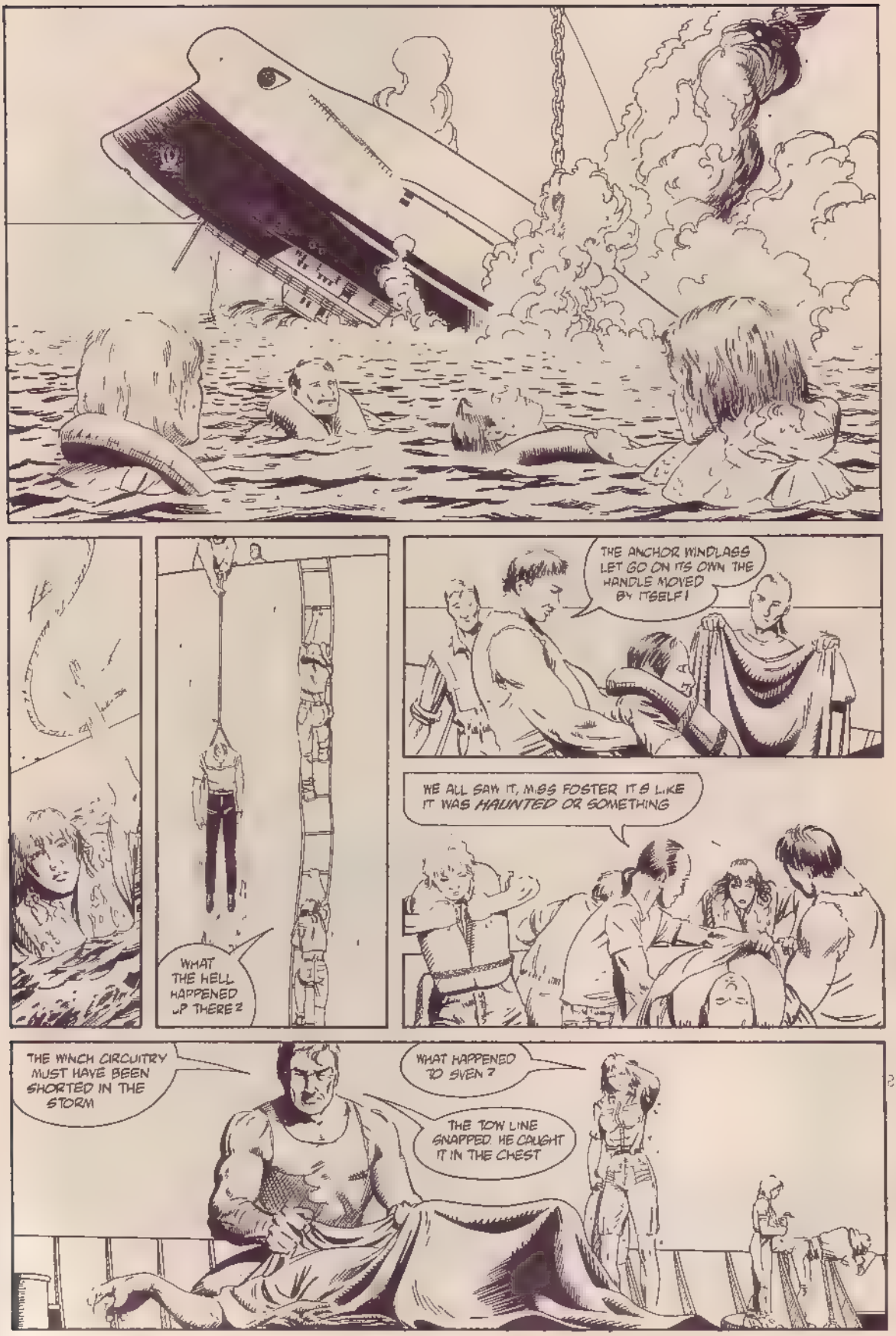
Virus ships December 15, 1992.





IF WE'RE SALVAGING THIS TUB, WE GET A SHARE, RIGHT, MR AVERY?
YEAH, YOU'LL GET SOMETHING, APIA
STAND CLEAR.
WRRRRRR
CUT THE WINCH! YOU'RE GOING TO SINK US!
TURN IT OFF!
I DID, SIR! IT WON'T STOP!
LOOK AT THE ANCHOR STOPS! THEY'RE MOVING ALL BY THEMSELVES!
CLEAR THE BOW! RUN!


KA-DOW!
WHUH--
SKWAK
CLACK CLACK
CLACK
CLACK
CAPTAIN, GET BACK!
WHAMP!
UUGHH!
GET HIM INTO A LIFE JACKET-- WE'RE GONNA GET WET


WHAT THE HELL HAPPENED UP THERE?
THE ANCHOR WINDLASS LET GO ON ITS OWN THE HANDLE MOVED BY ITSELF!
WE ALL SAW IT, MISS FOSTER IT'S LIKE IT WAS HAUNTED OR SOMETHING
THE WINCH CIRCUITRY MUST HAVE BEEN SHORTED IN THE STORM
WHAT HAPPENED TO SVEN?
THE TOW LINE SNAPPED HE CAUGHT IT IN THE CHEST

"I'M CERTAINLY NOT WRITING ABOUT SUPERHEROES. THERE ARE NO HEROES IN MY STORIES."

"THE REAL HEROES ARE THE VICTIMS WHO DON'T ABUSE. IT'S A CHOICE. IT'S NOT INEVITABLE."

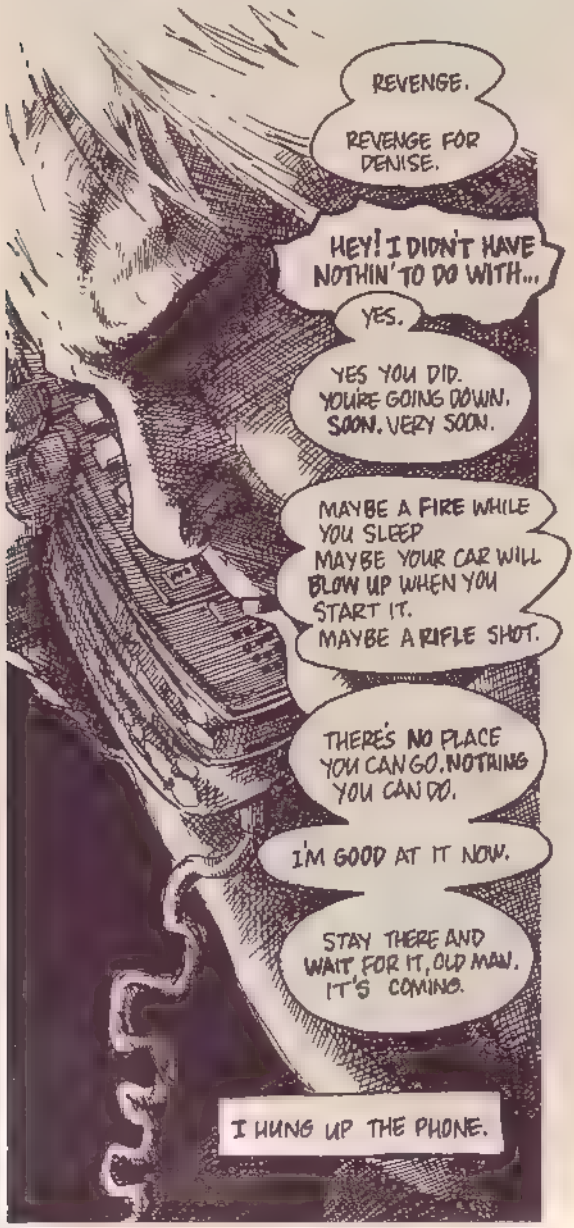
A HARD LOOK AT ANDREW VACHSS

by Jennie Bricker

"The most efficient light is a laser," says Andrew Vachss, "because it's so focused." Vachss is not multi-faceted. He doesn't have a range of professional interests. His life's work is a battle against child abuse, and he wages that battle with laser-beam efficiency on many fronts. His latest battleground is the comics medium.

Hard Looks is Dark Horse's bimonthly anthology, now in its fifth issue, featuring Vachss' work, both in illustrated prose and in graphic story adaptations Adapted and illustrated by talents like Chet Williamson, Joe Lansdale, Neal Barrett, Jr., Dave Gibbons, James O'Barr, Warren Pleece, and Gary Gianni, the stories in *Hard Looks* are exactly that: hard, uncompromising glimpses into pockets of society where violence is the norm and today's victim becomes tomorrow's predator. Vachss' plots focus, most often, on the aftermath of abuse; frequently, revenge is on the protagonist's mind. In "Family Resemblance," a masked man with a shotgun confronts three men. One of them has raped and strangled a little girl, and it is the gunman's task to determine which of them is guilty. In "Anytime I Want," two brothers set out to avenge their sister's death and stop a father whose sexual abuse has continued for years. These stories are not simple, not easy. The villains come without black hats, and the good guys, as likely as not, are unwashed, uncivil, socially inept. Vachss says his stories explore "where the edge of the envelope is." In real life, he points out, "monsters don't have horns." It's not so hard to rationalize killing a demon, or the perfect stereotype of a molester What's difficult is reconciling the murder of a character whose portrayal is closer to life, convoluted, complex — like the sensibly articulate man in a wheelchair who writes kiddie porn computer programs and is shot by a hired gun at the end of "Cripple " Sometimes, as in "Hostage," it's hard to pick out the good guys from the bad guys. The good guys don't always triumph and, when they do, their motives may not be as pure as the reader might wish

Burke, the narrator of Vachss' novels — *Flood*, *Strega*, *Blue Belle*, *Hard Candy*, *Blossom*, and *Sacrifice* (published by Alfred A. Knopf and Ballantine Books) — is a good example of a Vachss-style protagonist. Burke lives on the fringe of acceptability, crossing over now and then to exact violent vengeance from a molester who might be overlooked by the law. Most of all, though, he is simply a survivor. In *Sacrifice*, he tells the reader: "That's what I want — to be safe. When I was younger, I waded in, throwing hooks with both hands, looking for that one shot that would take out the other guy.... Now all I want is to go the distance, be standing at the end.... Standing up." Vachss calls survival Burke's "driving force," adding that, despite his starring role in Vachss' novels, "He is not an effective person. He doesn't attack the problem; he is motivated by vengeance — a prototypical abused child."


REVENGE.
REVENGE FOR DENISE.
HEY! I DIDN'T HAVE NOTHIN' TO DO WITH...
YES.
YES YOU DID. YOU'RE GOING DOWN. SOON. VERY SOON.
MAYBE A FIRE WHILE YOU SLEEP
MAYBE YOUR CAR WILL BLOW UP WHEN YOU START IT.
MAYBE A RIFLE SHOT.
THERE'S NO PLACE YOU CAN GO. NOTHING YOU CAN DO.
I'M GOOD AT IT NOW.
STAY THERE AND WAIT FOR IT, OLD MAN. IT'S COMING.
I HUNG UP THE PHONE.

Vachss, in contrast, is effectiveness itself against the problem of child abuse. Offered a job by a college recruiter while he was still an undergraduate, Vachss found himself doing social work, tracking carriers of venereal disease, trying to locate their sexual contacts. Along the way, he encountered the issue of child abuse: "It slapped me in the face and made me insanely angry.... Later, I realized that we have to intervene at the blossoming process, we need to connect child protection to our own self-interests. No one is born a rapist or a child molester."

Having a shot at the "blossoming process" is part of what sent Vachss to law school, and what makes him now devote his law practice to cases involving abused children. As Vachss sees it, abuse perpetuates itself in an alarming cycle where victims grow up to become abusers. The cycle is not inevitable, Vachss says, but it's common, and the way child abuse is handled by our social and legal systems contributes to the process.

When the adult child molester emerges, though, Vachss doesn't waste his sympathy excusing the behavior. He routinely refers to molesters as "monsters" (Burke calls them "freaks"); for him, they've lost their status as human beings. The line they cross that strips their humanity and makes them monsters is a distinct one for Vachss: It's "when they're calcified in the behavior. When it becomes their reason to be. When empathy is burned out of them and they become not only sociopaths, but *predators*." A lot of people, Vachss points out, are sociopaths — after all, it's easier to accomplish day-to-day living without a lot of extra moral baggage — but a child molester is a sociopath who goes after children. And that's where Vachss brings his skills as an attorney to bear to interrupt the cycle.

While it's idealistic to hope that all child abuse could be prevented, Vachss says the cycle *can* be broken. Victims don't become abusers just from being abused. He explains: "To create an abuser, it takes abuse *plus* the message that the abusive behavior is condoned — by society, by parents, by the law." If a child is not given that message, he or she is less likely to grow up and follow in the abuser's footsteps. What the legal system needs to do, says Vachss, is remove the victim from the perpetrator and ensure that each child molester faces penal consequences. But before that will happen with any consistency, society needs to become aware of the problem, which for too long has hidden its uncomfortable presence behind closed doors.

Literature is Vachss' vehicle for taking child abuse into the public eye. His novels have been called "mesmerizing in [their] intensity," "hypnotically violent," "lean, tough-edged, and brittle." He's had movie offers for the novels, too, but Vachss is cautious about letting his work too far out of his reach. In fact, when Dark Horse Comics first contacted him to ask about adapting his novels into graphic story format, Vachss decided to try out a single short story first. That story was "Placebo," and it appeared in the *Dark Horse Presents Fifth Anniversary Special*. Since then, with the advent and success of *Hard Looks* and other projects, Vachss says he's gotten what he wanted — a new audience — and he's pleased with the result. Many of the adaptations, he says, "have been brilliant," even improving on the original prose version, and he is satisfied with Dark Horse editor Jerry Prosser's willingness to work closely with him throughout each project. "I have complete control," says Vachss "I see the stories in their final forms, and I have absolute veto power.... In some ways, Dark Horse has been my best publishing experience ever — and my work is published in seventeen languages."

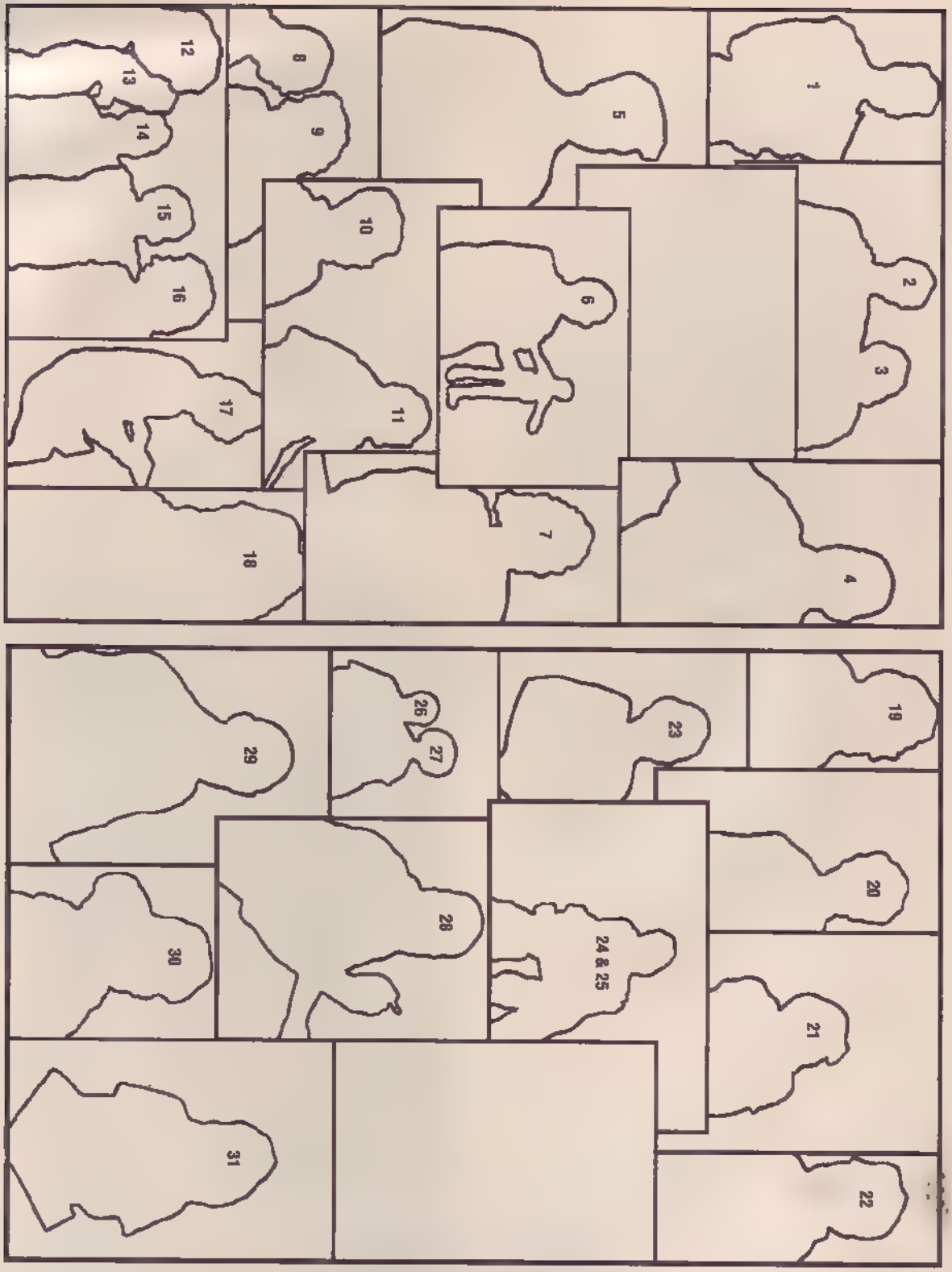
Vachss will team up with Dark Horse for at least three more projects over the next year or two, including, finally, an adaptation of one of his novels. Neal Barrett, Jr., has already written the comics script, and Vachss is delighted with it. "It's the movie script I *wish* they had done," says Vachss, who sold the movie rights to *Blue Belle* but has no control over the finished product. He hopes there won't be a finished product, he admits Meanwhile, Prosser and Vachss are busy selecting *Blue Belle*'s artistic team

Another Vachss project is already well under way. *Another Chance to Get It Right* is due out in November, and Vachss describes it as "the high-risk venture of all time: a children's book for adults." After he rejected another publisher's offer to produce the story as an expensive coffee-table book illustrated with photographs ("It would have been too inaccessible," he explains), Vachss decided to give Prosser's idea for a graphic story a try. The result is a combination of prose, poetry, essay, and art. What's it about? All Vachss will say is that the title is "what every child represents for the species": another chance to get it right.

A four-issue miniseries called *Underground* is in the works for next year. As *Hard Looks* does with its combination of prose and graphic stories, *Underground* will experiment with a multimedia approach — another of Prosser's ideas. Each issue will feature not only prose and comics stories, but a CD of original music. Vachss is happy about the experimentation; "cross-pollination," he claims, "is the essence of communication." And the possibilities for access to new audiences are "everything" to Vachss.

Vachss strikes one as tough, stern, no-nonsense. He speaks in a gravely voice with some anger simmering just beneath it. If you found yourself in a courtroom, you'd hope to God he was *your* lawyer, not the other guy's. It's hard to imagine him joking around much, or cracking puns. So when he refers to his recent publishing ventures with Dark Horse Comics as "a chance to go Trojan-horsing around in a brand new arena," you have to wonder whether you should chuckle.

It's probably better not to.



SO... HOW WAS YOUR C.Q. (COMICS QUOTIENT)?

For those of you who entered our "Test Your C Q " contest ast month (and for those of you who are just plain curious), here are the answers to who's who in the photo montage that ran in *San Diego Comic-Con Comics* and *Insider* #10.

Correct entries postmarked no later than October 31, 1992 will be eligible to win a special collector's copy of *San Diego Comic-Con Comics*, signed by many of the noted and notable Con attendees

1) Archie Goodwin, 2) Kate Worley, 3) Reed Waller, 4) Matt Wagner, 5) Dave Stevens, 6) Bob Burden (with a Harvey Pekar doll), 7) Alan Grant, 8) Matt Wagner (again!), 9) Kevin Eastman, 10) Bob Greenberger, 11) William Messner-Loebs, 12) Frank Miller, 13) Neil Gaiman, 14) Bill Sienkiewicz, 15) Bernie Wrightson, 16) Dave Gibbons, 17) Arthur Adams, 18) The Alien, 19) Joe Kubert, 20) Moebius, 21) Arthur Suydam, 22) Jack Kirby, 23) Clive Barker, 24) Maggie Thompson, 25) Steve "the dude" Rude, 26) Mark Verheiden, 27) Sonja Luchini, 28) Sergio Aragones, 29) Will Eisner, 30) Bill Mumy, and 31) Mark Martin.

DARK HORSE PRESENTS #68

In part two of the three-part introduction to *Predator: Race War*, a government-sanctioned task force is tracking Predator activity across the globe, and has come to one conclusion: You have to hire a killer to find a killer. Story by novelist **Andrew Vachss** (*Hard Looks*), adapted by **Randy Stradley** (*Aliens vs. Predator*) and artists **Jordan Raskin** and **John Beatty** (*Punisher*). Also: "Swimming Lessons" — **Jo Duffy** and **Maya Sakamoto** — a tie-in to their self-published *Nestrobber* series; prehistoric adventure in "Paleolove," by **Gary Davis**; and, from **Eddie Campbell**, sly looks at modern life! Painted cover by **Ray Lago** (*Hellraiser*).

Suggested for mature readers. Contains strong language.

$2.25 U.S., $2.75 Canada.
32 B&W pages, color cover.

Monthly. Shipping November 3, 1992.

DHP

DARK HORSE PRESENTS

"HE IS, WANDA. I'M NOT TAKING ANYTHING AWAY FROM FAL, BUT TRACKING ISN'T THE ONLY METHOD OF HUNTING.
"AND CONTROL DOESN'T NEED TO KNOW ABOUT MY GUY ANY MORE THAN HE NEEDS TO KNOW WHO OR WHAT IT IS WE'RE REALLY AFTER."

CHEVAL NOIR #36

Premiering this issue is "Starlight," the fourth volume in **Andreas**' popular *Rork* series. Rork sets off across the desert toward an isolated village, where a mysterious event and an old friend await him. Meanwhile, a different mystery is solved in chapter 6 of **Casey**'s "In Search of Peter Pan." **Moebius** engrosses in "The Man from the Comet" continues with another all-new chapter, and the mysterious Pete returns in "The Angriest Dog in the World" by **David Lynch**. All this plus a cover painting like no other by **Tom Sutton** (*Grimjack, Creepy*).

Suggested for mature readers.

$2.95 U.S., $3.50 Canada
32 B&W pages, painted cover

Monthly. Shipping November 10, 1992.

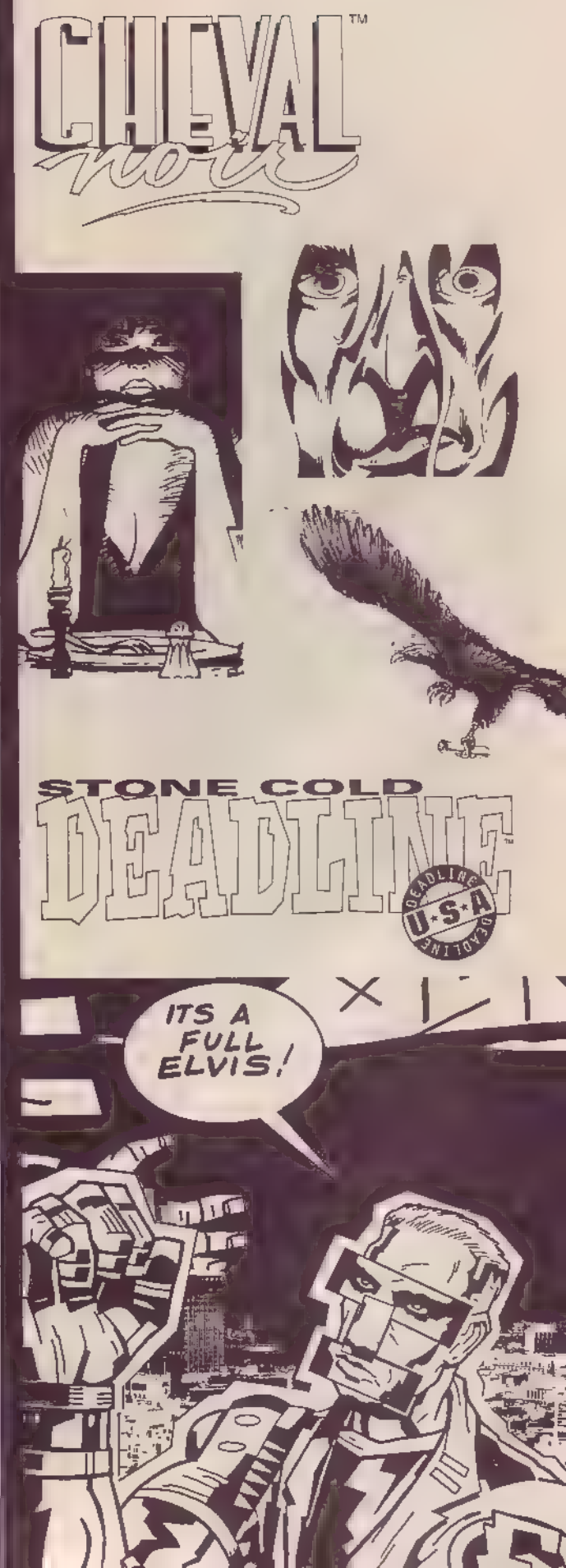
STONE COLD DEADLINE U.S.A. #8

Hang loose, pilgrim... *Deadline U.S.A.* #8 comin' right back at ya. This ish presents the cosmic conclusion to "Dynamite" **D'israeli**'s "Timulo," the mutant madness of **Dave** "Canadian" **Cooper**'s "My Life as a Rhythmatist," the extramarital exploits of "Johnny Nemo" by **Milligan** "and" **Ewins**, plus work by **Julie** "Hot Stuff" **Hollinns**, **Shaky** "The King" **Kane**, "Smilin'" **Brian Iverson**, **Nick** "Alphabet" **Abadzis**, **Phil** "Federal Witness Protection Program" **Hester**, and more! And don't forget to come up on the alternative music feature, tiger — there'll be a test later! Cover by **Brett** "The Man" **Ewins**! Excelsior!

Suggested for mature readers.

$3.95 U.S., $4.75 Canada
48 B&W pages (no ads!), painted cover

Shipping November 17, 1992.



DARK HORSE COMICS #4

Month after month, *Dark Horse Comics* brings you four times the excitement of any other comic on the planet! Think we're crazy? Wait till you read "Mad Dog" by **John Arcudi**, **Andy Dimitt**, and **Chris Warner**. The Predator's rumbling grounds move to Japan in "Blood Feud" by **Neal Barrett, Jr.** (*Hard Looks*) and **Leo Durañona** (*Race of Scorpions*). "Aliens: Horror Show" continues, written by **Sarah Byam** (*Billi 99*) with art by **David Roach** (*2000 AD*), and "Indiana Jones and the Shrine of the Sea Devil" continues with story and art by **Gary Gianni** (*20,000 Leagues Under the Sea*, *Hard Looks*). Color, Predator cover by Durañona.

$2.50 U.S., $3.00 Canada
32 color pages, color cover

Monthly. Shipping November 24, 1992

THE HORSE'S MOUTH

10956 SE MAIN STREET, MILWAUKIE, OREGON 97222

Dear Dark Horse

I hope I'm not ruining a big surprise for you — but I just have to know. Are the rumors true? First *Give Me Liberty*, then *Hard Boiled*, "Sin City" [*in Dark Horse Presents*], *RoboCop versus The Terminator* — and now a Frank Miller superhero series?!

Have I died and gone to comic reader heaven?

Even now, I can't believe how much Dark Horse has grown and improved. Who would've thought five years ago that the '90s would see some of the biggest names in the comics industry at an "indie"? Talk about talent: Miller, [John] Byrne, [Matt] Wagner, [Arthur] Adams — the list goes on! More important, the quality is still there.

I'm looking forward to Wagner's *Grendel: War Child* and the *Nexus* revival by [Mike] Baron and [Steve] Rude. Any chance we'll ever see the *Batman/Grendel* crossover? After *Batman vs Predator*, I don't see why not! Let's see a *Sin City* collection soon.

As for *Dark Horse Insider*, I love it! The full-page ads, the lettercol, and the serials make it the best deal around. Whoever said nothing in life was free never read *DHI!* A quick suggestion: How about the occasional interview with some creators (like Frank Miller!)? Have you given any thought to Dark Horse merchandise? How does that work since characters belong to the creators?

A final request: Please put me on your mailing list for advance previews. *DHP*, *Aliens*, *Predator* — anything! (Especially work by you-know-who!)

Lastly, congratulations on your many comic awards and nominations! You deserve it! Wishing you continued success, I remain

Yours,
Viet-Nam Dang
Federal Way, WA

P.S. If I'm going to give you my wish list, how about getting Alan Moore to do something? (Do that and I'll *know* I'm in heaven!)

Tell us, are there really pearly gates up there? I don't have a confirmed date yet, but be on the lookout for A Small Killing, *a graphic novel by Alan Moore. Dark Horse will be offering the book sometime in early 1993. You heard it here first!*

I get the feeling you're a Frank Miller fan. Well, you're among friends, yours truly included. Turn to page 9 of this issue for information on the Sin City *collection, shipping November 3, 1992. Miller has added 18 all-new pages to this graphic tour de force. You're in for a real treat! Miller projects lined up for '93 include* Sin City Blues *and, in tandem with Geof Darrow,* a new superhero series.

Batman vs. Grendel *is still in abeyance for the time being. With any luck, you may see something next year.*

As for creator interviews, you'll find a feature on best-selling novelist and now comics writer Andrew Vachss (Hard Looks, Another Chance to Get it Right, Predator: Race War) *beginning on page 23. The story was written by Dark Horse editor Jennie Bricker, who also contributed a great feature on* Nexus *creators Mike Baron and Steve Rude in* Insider *#7.*

Yes, we've given thought to Dark Horse merchandise. In fact, Insider *#9 featured a way-cool Dark Horse jacket. You'll be seeing more Dark Horse merchandise offered on these pages in the months to come.*

And lastly, thanks for the kind words. With so many creative talents in our stable, we plan on continued success!

Yo Kris,

First of all, don't add color to the *Insider*, not only for keeping the price down (like at the current free status), but also because there is nothing wrong with black and white. I prefer a good B&W comic over a cheesy color comic, even if I have to pay more for the quality B&W comic. In this age of Marvel Zombies and Technicolor Ted Turner Mental Cases, there is some warped perception that you are not getting your money's worth if you are experiencing a medium of entertainment that is bereft of color. The only time you are being cheated is when you pay for a comic with poor art and stultifying script. It is said that black and white comics are cheaper to produce, but sell in such smaller quantities that they generally cost more. At least Dark Horse can take pride in not charging folks to read a mag designed to sell their own comics, and one that in terms of layout, information, talent showcased, prizes, et al, blows the [*Ahem.... Here our reader goes on to say some not-too-complimentary things about our competition, but since it would be rather unprofessional and self-serving of me to print that here, just use your imagination. — K.*].

As far as things I'd like to see in the *Insider*, the inclusion of interviews with such folks as Matt Wagner, Eddie Campbell, Dave Dorman, Bob Burden, Art Adams, Steve Rude, and others would be a nice addition, along with some unpublished sketchbook art. The *Nexus* preview was a nice treat, especially the thumbnails and page layouts.

Finally, a question. Will there ever be a *Rocketeer Adventure Magazine #3* with Dave Stevens

and Art Adams together doing the *Rocketeer*, plus more Kaluta "Girl Guides"? You got us all worked up and now, a year later, no word on what happened.

Bill Haney
Waco, TX

I agree with you on the effectiveness of good black and white art. Frank Miller's aforementioned Sin City *is an excellent example of the beauty and power that can be conveyed in the simplicity of black and white.*

To answer your question on the Rocketeer Adventure Magazine *#3 I went to special projects director Bob Schreck. The project is still in the works, Bill. Last year's release of* The Rocketeer *movie put a huge demand on Dave Stevens' time. However, he has started work on the inks again, and if all goes well, you can expect to see* Rocketeer Adventure Magazine *#3 out next year. According to Schreck, there will be no Kaluta "Girl Guides" in this last installment of the "Cliff Goes to New York" adventure story. You can look forward to a 24-page story, along with the usual text piece, and a special gallery section of* Rocketeer *pin-up art, rendered by some of the best artists in comics. Be patient — some things are worth waiting for!*

Dear Kris:

Issue #8 was only the second issue of *Dark Horse Insider* that I have been able to get my hands on, further testimony to the observation of Evan Williams that these issues disappear quite quickly. *Insider* represents more graphic evidence of the attention Dark Horse gives to customer satisfaction and feedback. That brings me to the point of this letter: the remarks of Louis "Luke" Byrne, who like Evan Williams had a letter printed in issue #8.

Luke seems to suggest that those who criticize some of Dark Horse's works do so "because you [the critical reader] can do no better." As one who has from time to time penned critical letters to publishers and one who regularly corresponds with others who do the same, I can say most assuredly that the reasons for the criticisms run far afield of any frustrations over not being able to do better. Rather than representing expressions of our own feelings of inadequacy, critical letters often depict the thoughts of a vocal, enthusiastic, and quite dedicated segment of fandom, opinions from those who rightly feel they are as much a part of the medium as the publishers and creators. Thus, for many it is the voice of an ever-watchful eye, guarding something that is shared in ownership.

Part of the magic of Dark Horse is that they seek out the opinions of their readership, eliciting criticism both positive and negative. Kris Young only reaffirmed in responding to Luke what many of us have come to regard as a special quality of this company: they listen attentively.

Opinions, Luke... plain and simple, rightfully expressed.

But on the other hand, if Luke's point is that opinions should be put forth in a responsible manner, I fully agree. I once wrote a harshly critical letter that Dark Horse graciously printed in *Hard Boiled #2*. Although the words represented my feelings then and now, I realize much to my regret that I could have and should have been more thoughtful and respectful in putting forth my views. After all, if the aim of criticism is not to attempt to positively influence, then the exercise is not worth the effort. The path traveled should lead to the goal, not away from it.

Having said that, it seems that the inclusion of "The Horse's Mouth" has given *Insider* the fullness that is a growing characteristic of Dark Horse. Previews, the continuing saga of the "Aliens vs. Predator 2," commentary, and now reader feedback: I'm impressed.

Warmest regards,
Jan C. Childress
Brooklyn, NY

P.S. I'm finding it difficult to admit that that very odd *Mask* preview looked quite interesting. That's not supposed to be my bag.

It's always a pleasure to hear from one of our most eloquent and articulate readers. And as for that preview on The Mask Returns, *I guess it's done its job in piquing your interest, Jan. Give it a try — you may have found a brand new bag!*

Dear Kris,

This will be my first letter to a comic-book company, despite the fact that I buy from other companies. They just don't seem to really want personal communication. I *marvel* at the fact that one company (that shall remain nameless) often prints comics without letters. In fact, in a few of the titles it seems to be an occasion when there actually *is* a letters page.

I would love to be put on your list of "ready, willing, and able previewers," by the way!

One last concern. Does Dark Horse accept freelance writing? And if so, can you send me a copy of your writers' guidelines?

Sincerely,
Ben Oxley
Centerville, OH

Consider your first letter published. Your question about writers' guidelines gives me the perfect opportunity to tell you and other aspiring comics writers and artists how to go about getting Dark Horse's guidelines. Just send a letter requesting either writers' or artists' guidelines (you multi-talented people can ask for both!), along with a stamped, self-addressed envelope, to: "Submissions Editor, c/o Dark Horse Comics, 10956 SE Main Street, Milwaukie, OR 97222." Who knows — this could be the start of something big! Good luck.

As both Jan and Ben mention, we like hearing from our readers, and we welcome your letters. You can send your comments on a specific book to that title's lettercol (i.e., "DHP Winner's Circle" for Dark Horse Presents), *or you can send your general comments to "The Horse's Mouth," at the address listed above. If your letter is published in the Insider, you'll receive a nifty gift from Dark Horse, so let us hear from you.*

Keep reading!
Kris Young

Here's a conglomeration of photos taken during the 1992 San Diego Comic-Con. To add to the fun, see how many times you can find 'con' on this page. Sometimes they're conspicuous, sometimes they're not. Confused? Confounded? I'm confident you'll figure it out! Simply write the number of times 'con' appears (either by itself, or as part of another word), along with your name, address, and phone number, and send it to: **Insider Con Game, c/o Dark Horse Comics, 10956 SE Main Street, Milwaukie, OR 97222.** The first 100 contest entrants to send in the correct answer will win a copy of the *San Diego Comic-Con Comics* and a Dark Horse tattoo, too!

PHOTO FINISH

Congratulations were in order for Frank Vesel, winner of the drawing for the RoboCop OCP Detroit Police car used in the filming of RoboCop 3. On hand to award the prize was Dark Horse Comics publisher Mike Richardson.

Who are these con men? Marketing whiz Ted Adams (center) is flanked by Edward and James Bolton, who graciously consented to help staff the Dark Horse retail booth.

Karl and Barbara Kesel are the picture of connubial bliss. Karl is a consummate comics artist, and Barbara, of course, is Dark Horse's managing editor.

PHOTO FINISH

Caught consorting with comics retailers are (beginning to the immediate right of the table) executive editor Randy Stradley, editor Jerry Prosser, and Dark Horse International managing director Liliana Bolton.

Special projects director Bob Schreck (center) made connections with long-time friends Doug and Ellen Wildey at a dinner hosted by Dark Horse.

PHOTO FINISH

The Dark Horse spirit is contagious when you're around marketing director Ronnie Noize, shown sporting an official Dark Horse tattoo.

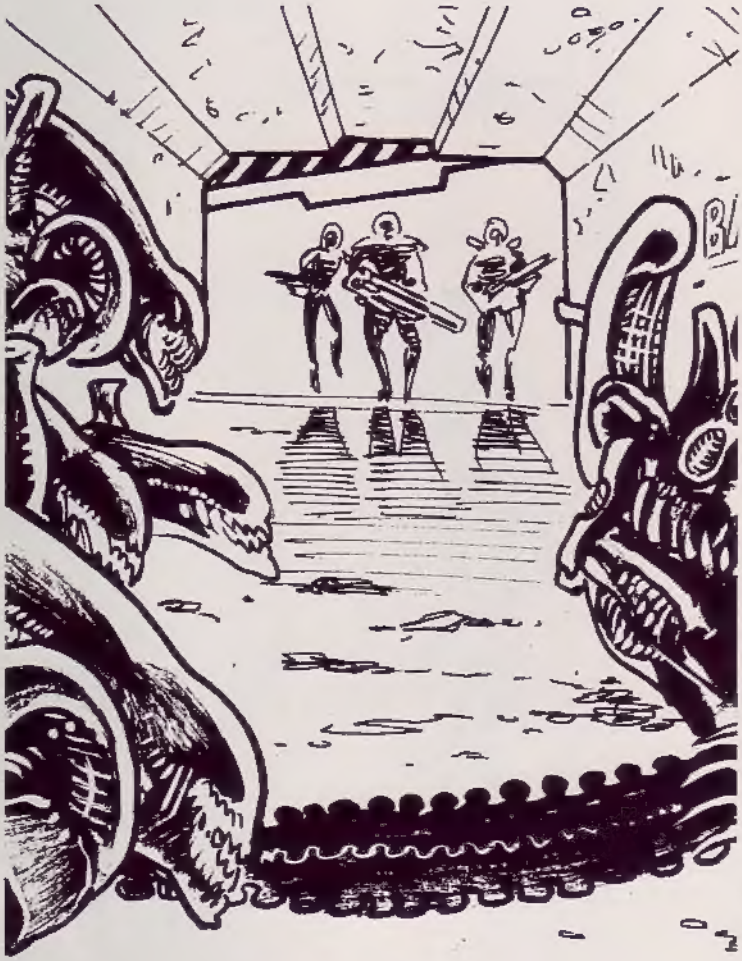
PHOTO FINISH

The sometimes-controversial and ever-so-congenial John Byrne was one of the most popular creators at the Dark Horse booth. (That was the consensus of convention-goers!)

INSIDE OUT

COMING IN JANUARY

ALIENS: COLONIAL MARINES #1
ART BY TONY AKINS AND PAUL GUINAN.



SHIPPING DECEMBER 1

Aliens Volume 2 #1 (U.K. edition)
Aliens vs. Predator Hardcover Collection
Classic Star Wars #5
Dark Horse Presents #69
Flaming Carrot #30
Grendel: War Child #5
The Mask Returns #4
The Minotaur's Tale
Nexus: Alien Justice #1
Primal #2
The Residents: Freak Show Limited Edition
Ring of Roses #2
The Venus Wars II #7
Don Martin Lithograph

SHIPPING DECEMBER 8

Alien^3 Movie Special #1 (U.K. edition)
Caravan Kidd #6
Cheval Noir #37
Fat Dog Mendoza
John Byrne's Next Men #10
The Young Indiana Jones Chronicles #10

SHIPPING DECEMBER 15

Dark Horse Comics #5
Herbie #4
The New Frontier #3
RoboCop: Prime Suspect #3
Version #1.1
Virus #1

SHIPPING DECEMBER 22

Frankenstein Cold-Cast Figure Kit
Thirteen O'Clock
Don Martin's Droll Book–Hardcover

Grendel: War Child™ & © 1992 Matt Wagner. Dark Horse Comics™ 1992 Dark Horse Comics, Inc. Tip-Sheet, Dark Horse Insider, DEADLINE U.S.A., Cheval Noir, The American, Nexus, The Mask, Dark Horse Presents, and DHP are all trademarks of Dark Horse Comics, Inc. Aliens, Predator, and Aliens vs. Predator are ™ & © 1992 Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation. Indiana Jones™ , Star Wars®, and The Young Indiana Jones Chronicles™ © 1992 Lucasfilm, Ltd. Used by authorization. John Byrne's Next Men™ & © 1992 John Byrne. Caravan Kidd™ original Japanese version © 1992 Johji Manabe and Studio Katsudon. English translation © 1992 Studio Proteus. The Venus Wars™ original story and art © 1992 Yoshikazu Yasuhiko and Gakken. English translation © 1992 Studio Proteus and Dark Horse Comics, Inc. Orion ™ original art and story © 1992 Masamune Shirow and Seishinsha. English translation © 1992 Studio Proteus and Dark Horse Comics, Inc. Orion, its characters, and their distinctive likenesses are ™ & © 1992 Masamune Shirow and Seishinsha. The Orion English logo is ™ 1992 Studio Proteus and Dark Horse Comics, Inc. Herbie © 1992 Roger Broughton/Sword in Stone Productions. RoboCop™ 3 TM & © 1992 Orion Pictures Corporation. TM designates a trademark of Orion Pictures Corporation. Dr. Giggles™ © 1992 Largo Entertainment. All other contents © 1992 Dark Horse Comics, Inc. Frankenstein™ © 1931 Universal Pictures Corporation. Renewed 1959 by Universal Pictures Company, Inc. Licensed by MCA/Universal Merchandising, Inc. Cold-Cast™ is a trademark of Dark Horse Comics, Inc. Hard Looks™ & © 1992 Andrew Vachss. Another Chance to Get it Right™ & © 1992 Andrew Vachss. Freaks' Amour ™ 1992 Tom DeHaven. Story adaptation and art © 1992 Tom DeHaven. Ring of Roses story and art © 1992 Das Petrou, Trevor Goring, and John Watkiss. Blanche Goes to New York ™ & © 1992 Rick Geary. Don Martin's Droll Book™ & © 1992 Don Martin. Magnus Robot Fighter and its distinctive likenesses thereof, which originally appeared in publications originally published by Western Publishing, Inc., are trademarks of Western Publishing Company, Inc. All rights reserved. Magnus Robot Fighter © 1992 Voyager Communications Inc. KLING KLANG KLATCH text © 1992 Ian McDonald, illustrations © 1992 David Lyttleton. Sin City ™ & © 1992 Frank Miller. The New Frontier © 1992 Michael Cherkas and John Sabljic. All other contents © 1992 Dark Horse Comics, Inc. All rights reserved. Dark Horse Comics, Inc. assumes no responsibility for unsolicited material. Letters sent to the Dark Horse Insider will be treated as unconditionally assigned for publication and copyright purposes and as subject to Dark Horse Comics' right to edit and comment editorially. Printed in CANADA.

HANG ON
DON'T DO IT
DO IT
FOR GOOD TIME CALL HUDSON-3270